

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

Maine Women's Publications - All

Publications

Winter 1-1-1973

DawnBreaker Vol 21 No 2 (Winter 1973)

Dawnbreaker Staff

Maine Division - American Association of University Women

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all



Part of the [Education Commons](#), [History Commons](#), [Public Administration Commons](#), [Public Affairs Commons](#), and the [Women's Studies Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Staff, Dawnbreaker, "DawnBreaker Vol 21 No 2 (Winter 1973)" (1973). *Maine Women's Publications - All*. 7. https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all/7

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Women's Publications - All by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

Topics--One Per Branch?

Division members! Now is the time to acquaint yourselves with the program topics for the 1973-1975 biennium. (See January 1973 AAUW JOURNAL) Our goal is to encourage each branch through consensus of its membership to select one topic. The topic will provide a central theme for the continuing education of the members through the total branch program--branch meetings, study groups, and action projects. Why select just one topic? Consider these as some possible answers:

1. A central theme strengthens the program by directing the study and action for the biennium
2. An opportunity is provided to study one topic in depth rather than skimming over each lightly
3. The membership has an opportunity to select a topic and to tailor that topic to their own needs and wishes
4. New members frequently are attracted because of a shared interest in the topic choice
5. A sense of accomplishment is realized at the end of the year when the events are summarized and pulled together.

Lou Smith, Program Development

AR Aids Smithsonian

The search in Franklin County by Jean Dibden, Cultural AR, for American paintings executed before 1914 has netted a listing of 25 for the Smithsonian Institution for their Bicentennial Inventory of American Paintings. A Polaroid picture of each of these paintings is included with the Painting Report Form.

Although the owners of some paintings are reluctant to make a listing, these 25 reports (plus others submitted before 1976) will function as media through which we may learn about our cultural heritage.

(Read more about how AAUW members throughout the country are aiding in the search for American paintings in the November 1972 AAUW JOURNAL.)

STRONG VOLUNTEERS

Inspired by the 1970 Fall Workshop program on classroom volunteer aids, Julie Fast, Franklin County Branch, felt the elementary school in her town of Strong could use some help of this sort. The school's student body of 350 (k-8) had no library. A few remnant volumes were stored in the English room, where it was an interruption to use them. Under Julie's leadership, during the past year the Strong volunteers have organized a library with its own quarters and have catalogued and covered 1100 volumes. Student librarians keep the library open for several hours each day. Despite meager funding by the district for new books, the library continues to grow. Volunteers and students contribute books; school book fairs raise money for the purchase of used books. Storytelling and dramatization are also part of the revitalized library program. (cont. on page 4)

THE DIV.
NEEDS A
BANNER FOR -
THE NAT'L
CONVENTION



State Divisions have been asked to have a 3' x 6' banner to display at the Association convention in Washington, D.C. this June. The banner may be made of burlap, canvas or felt and the design is to represent our state in color, shape, message or a characteristic interest. All persons wishing to submit a design for consideration should send it to President Peggy Hodgkins by April 1st. The designs will be displayed at our May convention and the artist(s) will be awarded a prize. Any medium (paper, etc.) and size (in the 2 x 1 proportion) is acceptable for the contest.

In Maine . . . with Peggy

The amount of attention you give to an organization's Call to Convention depends on your interest in that group. In particular, I want to direct your thoughts to the bi-annual AAUW conventions. Whether or not you ever plan to attend yourself is up to you; but whether your branch president receives the opportunity to experience the stimulating and educational "happening" which is an AAUW convention is also YOUR responsibility.



Branch presidents are reluctant to stress convention attendance for themselves because it might appear they are just after a nice trip. This is understandable. But knowing the Association is vital to a branch president and she is definitely handicapped if she is not provided this opportunity.

Within our division, those branches are strongest who have the policy of sending a delegate regularly to the National conventions. Conventions are a stimulating learning experience for the president and a means of growth for the branch. These strong branches offer more to their communities in effective educational programs, action and service.

Local scholarships are a hot issue in AAUW. Branch scholarship committees might consider awarding a scholarship to their incoming president to send her to a National convention. The avenues of interest and the possibilities for action that she, through her convention experience, can open up to the membership of her branch, can be of more value to the community than a \$200 scholarship.

To those branches who plead "poverty" --with bold new thinking in your scholarship committees and from your board members, the concept of investing in your own leadership by means of a scholarship is feasible. The branches which nourish themselves through their leaders become and remain strong. Help put more strength in your branch's roots by urging your board to send a delegate!

Happiness is working together in AAUW!

Peggy Hodgkins, President

.....Association convention dates:
June 17-21 in Washington, D.C.

BRANCH

CAPE NEDDICK branch is using Concern for the 3 C's--Conservation, Community, Consumerism as a guide to its programs for the year. Other activities have included a book fair where local people were invited to come in, buy a book, and leave it for the school library to help replace those lost in the elementary school fire in September. We are presently in the middle of a bridge round robin which also involves the community. This round robin raises our local scholarship and fellowships money.

"only one who attempts the absurd can achieve the impossible:" The "impossible" was the overwhelming success of our LINCOLN-KNOX branch project to bring the Maine State Ballet to Coastal Maine in two performances of "The Nutcracker" on November 18. Despite low admission charges, enabling children from as far as Matinicus Island to attend, the branch cleared \$554, to be set aside for future cultural events. Dotty Henderson was enthusiastic promoter and tireless leader of the enterprise, enlisting active support from branch members in many capacities...A panel of members at the January meeting presented an overview of Common Cause as one force for making government more responsive to the will of the people. This was a very successful meeting...Mary Sullivan has done a fine series in the Courier Gazette on libraries in our towns, assisted by members who fed her material...We have initiated a monthly newsletter to improve communication among our far-flung members and to increase attendance at meetings.

WATERVILLE branch projects related to the "We, the People" topic have been 1) a Radio Candidates' Night, featuring local candidates in the November election (sponsored also by the Waterville Democratic and Republican City Committees), 2) serving as a clearing house for the poll by the division of Maine legislators' stand on the ERA, and 3) the participation in the Legislature Observer program sponsored by the division...The November Annual Used Book sale included sales of used books, new books from Mr. Paperback, Augusta, baked goods, lunch, and autographed copies of Gregory's Angels, written by Alice Comparetti, Colby Professor and branch member...Study groups are flourishing. The Literature group is studying

HIGHLIGHTS

South American authors and their work. The Education group is tackling educational philosophy through current books, outside speakers, and the studying of bills concerning funding for public education...Our membership has broken 100!



l. to r., Elaine Eurnham, President, Cape Neddick, Judy Potter, Peggy Hodgkins, and Jean Leach, President, York County

YORK COUNTY members volunteered to conduct a survey of the needs of senior citizens for the Saco Director of Adult Education...In January the southern portion of the division was united at a joint meeting of Cape Neddick, Portland and York County branches at the York Institute in Saco. Judy Potter, a York Co. member and a lawyer, discussed the Equal Rights Amendment. President Peggy Hodgkins also attended this stimulating meeting.

The ORONO-OLD TOWN branch held an open meeting in January on alternate methods of financing public education. Mr. Asa Gordon of the Maine Department of Educational and Cultural Services was the speaker...Orono-Old Town is including a summary of the Orono School Board meetings in their newsletters.

The AUGUSTA branch has voted to donate \$500 to the library at the University of Maine in Augusta. This will help UMA meet accreditation standards as a separate institution.

Would you believe that the FRANKLIN COUNTY branch has a 31% increase in membership since September? A "well done" and "thank you" to Lib Etzel, Membership V.P...In October a second successful International Pot Luck Dinner was held for fellowships. Plans are underway for our sixth annual book sale to be held in April to benefit scholarships.

this beleaguered earth

The single most important step a branch can take now under this topic, I feel, is to spend \$3.00 for a subscription to the Legislative Reporter, published weekly during legislative sessions by the Natural Resources Council, 20 Willow St., Augusta 04330. Form a once-a-week group of interested members to follow it with action: letters to appropriate committees, testimony at hearings, calls to legislators, etc. Choose one priority item each week! Such a group need not be limited to AAUW members. Invite anyone who feels she should be doing more about environmental issues. Orono has a Monday morning coffee "klatch" devoted to this cause.

Lee Davis, TC

Member Directs NYC Opera

Lincoln-Knox Branch Program Director, Mary Sullivan, last summer staged and directed the opening production of Bel Canto Opera's fourth season, a production of Gaetano Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia." Its four performances in September to capacity crowds received outstanding reviews.

The Bel Canto troupe appeared in Rockport and Portland last May at Mary's instigation as president of the Coastal Arts Council. Rising to the forefront of New York's finest small opera companies, Bel Canto is bringing into focus excellent potentials open to small scale operatic presentation, potentials that might be of excellent value to operatic presentation here in Maine.

Mary studies voice in New York and is critic and cultural reviewer for the Courier Gazette in Rockland.

Planning a vacation?

The Santa Cruz, California, branch is initiating a Trade a Home and Travel service for AAUW members on a national and international level. Members can exchange their homes rent free and explore other areas. Obtain an application from Mrs. Donald R. Ellis, Travel Program Coordinator, 7350 Viewpoint Road, Aptos, Ca. 95003. We already have an application from a Santa Cruz member desiring to spend the summer in Maine. Contact Peggy Hodgkins if you would be interested in an exchange.

.....United Nations Seminar to be held in New York City on March 28-29, 1973. The Maine Division will send a delegate.

new topics for 1973-75

A. A. U. W.
DAWNBREAKER
23 Court Street
Farmington, Me. 04938